

# No. 56 - The Capitol Post: House & Senate Chamber Update

M. D. Millsap

Fri, Jul 1,  
12:03 PM

## **IN MEMORIAM**

### **From Nathan Stephens, Texas State Cemetery Administrator -**

The Texas State Cemetery will be holding a burial service for Bennie Bock, former Member of the Texas House of Representatives, at 11am on July 14, 2022. Services are public. Lux Funeral Home in New Braunfels, TX will be posting the full obituary which will contain visitation and memorial service dates and times.

<https://www.luxfhcares.com/obituaries/Bennie-Walter-Bock-II?obId=25273073#/obituaryInfo>

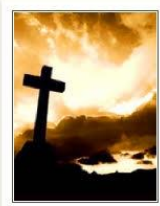
Below is a very sad screen shot from the funeral home. It shows Bennie's wife, Katharyn, who passed away Feb. 24, 2021, their daughter, Lucretia who passed away last May 2, and now Bennie.

LUX FUNERAL HOME &amp; CREMATION SERVICES |

1254 N. BUSINESS IH 35, NEW BRAUNFELS, TX

**LUX**  
FUNERAL HOME  
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76130 | PHONE: (830) 624-0500

**Bennie Walter  
Bock, II**May 17, 1942 - June 29,  
2022[View Details](#) | [Send  
Flowers](#)**Lucretia Carole  
Bock**November 3, 1974 - May 2,  
2022

A child of God and a firm  
believer in Jesus Christ who loved people,  
Lucretia Carole Bock was born on  
November 3, 1974, ...

[View Details](#) | [Plant a  
Tree](#)**Katharyn  
Carterette  
(Holmberg) Bock**October 14, 1940 -  
February 24, 2021

Graveside Services for Katharyn  
Carterette (Holmberg) Bock, wife of  
former State Representative Bennie Bock,  
are schedul...

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Here are some comments about Bennie. Please share your thoughts about Bennie with us and I'll continue to post them here.




**BENNIE BOCK II**

May 17, 1942 - June 29, 2022

From his granddaughter **Rachel Carterette Badger**

Yesterday my beloved Papí went to be with the Lord. My grandfather was my best friend, especially in recent years. When my grandmother died, we started talking more and developed a relationship and he told me two weeks ago “no other granddaughter and grandfather have”. He was the only grandfather I ever knew and I’m so glad I got to spend 23 years with him. I’ll miss channeling my inner cowgirl with him and spending weekends at the ranch and grabbing BBQ. I’ll miss going to the state capital and sitting in his chair on the representative’s floor. I’ll miss the stories he told me and moments of wisdom he implored on me. My Papí was the best man I ever met. He taught me so much about life and it hurts my heart to see him gone. But I’m so glad

he’s with Tía and Mumsie. I love you, Papí  this family has some big cowboy boots to fill.

## **Ed Emmett**

Mike, last night while enjoying the view from the deck of our cabin, I thought about Bennie and so many others like him that came to the Legislature for the right reasons. Government was better then...

## **Patricia Gray**

I did not know Rep. Bock personally, but once again I am struck by the thoughtfulness, talent, intelligence, and warmth of personality that comes through in the stories these former members share or that others share about them. In my time there, I was reminded several times that in any given two year cycle, only 181 people in this state have the privilege of serving in the legislature. I wish these stories could be better known. Perhaps the combination of both the ordinariness of their lives combined with the very real spark that drove their public service on behalf of their neighbors and communities would inspire more confidence in the government we need.

## **James Nowlin**

Bennie was a good and loyal friend. His service in the Legislature was productive for his District and our state. He was unselfish and independent. His affection for his community and Texas was exceeded only by his love for his family. RIP old friend.

JRN

# Mike Moncrief

**Well said Patricia. I couldn't agree more. The Capital Post that Mike has worked so hard to allow all of us to be a part of is a wonderful place to share those memories we all enjoyed making together. My guess is that every single one of us, whether we served together or not, look forward to receiving the next issue.**

**RIP Bennie.**

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# Tim Von Dohlen

Reflecting on a long friendship with Bennie Bock:

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Bennie's daughter Suzanne, his grandchildren and extended family. Bennie and I started our time in the Capitol at about the same time when in law school and he was working for Senator Bill Moore and me for Senator Wayne Connally. We then reconnected when Bennie was elected to the House of Representatives. We shared many legislative battles together, especially the Constitutional Amendment allowing land to be taxed at its productive value instead of fair market value. One of my favorite stories about Bennie was when he had a very important local bill that related to allowing the County Commissioners Court to set the dates for the annual quail season instead of the Parks and Wildlife Department. Many other members had a similar bill pending. Bennie passed his bill. Then Governor William Clements vetoed Bennie's Comal County bill. I happened to be away from Session the next afternoon when Bennie introduced a motion to override the Governor's veto. The override passed. This was the first time for a gubernatorial veto to be overridden since the Civil War! As I learned of the veto override, I went to Bennie's office with a kneeling pillow to kneel at the foot of the most powerful person in Texas that day. Bennie kept that pillow for many years afterwards. Bennie was a reliable and trustworthy friend and we enjoyed bar b q and dove hunts together over the years. We also enjoyed sharing our Christian faith. Bennie will be missed by his many friends. May his soul Rest In Peace.

# Chase Untermeyer

Bennie was a first-rate legislator, universally liked and respected. He will be remembered for many things, but I remember the dramatic occasion on 15 May 1979 when Bennie managed to override a gubernatorial veto, the first time since Pappy O'Daniel's day.

This is what happened: To everyone's surprise, the brand-new, first-ever Republican governor, Bill Clements, vetoed Bennie's bill setting the deer season in Comal County. Clements felt wildlife regulations should be uniform, not set county-by-county and legislator-by-legislator. Maybe he had a public-policy point, but House members were furious at the Governor for vetoing a local bill. More than that, he had vetoed *Bennie's* bill. The motion to override, which Bennie made, needed two-thirds and won 90-42 with 17 voting present. It was the first time that had happened since 1941; I'm not sure it has happened since.

Farewell, Bennie; you were one of the best.

## Debra Danburg

Love !! It was a pleasure and a learning experience to serve under his tutelage as a baby Legislator...